

structured in combination to automatically vary in response to variations in size of the discharge orifice.) Similarly, the other amended independent claims identified above subsequent to claim 1, recite a valve associated with the additive passageway, or means for variably occluding the additive passageway, or occluding the additive passageway, or valving the passageway, that similarly distinguished over Lindsay. The same argument applies to all independent claims.

Applicant also attaches also hereto a terminal disclaimer, terminally disclaiming the term of this patent that might extend beyond the term of the earliest to expire of several related patents stemming from the PCT parent, US 6,659,127. See attached terminal disclaimer cover letter. The terminal disclaimer is submitted to obviate any issue of double patenting in regard to the above related patents. The above related patents are commonly owned and have commonality, but not identity, of inventorship. They stem from a common parent. It is applicant's intent to terminally disclaim all issued patents to the date of the earliest to expire. Some have new matter, and there are restriction requirements that are difficult to interpret. Because of the complexity of the issues and a desire to avoid unnecessary difficulty in the future, applicant has determined simply to submit a terminal disclaimer in regard to all related patents, disclaiming to the earliest date. The intent of the common assignee is to continue to jointly own all patents.

Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Sue Z. Shaper, Applicants' Attorney at 713 550 5710 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

For these reasons, and in view of the above amendments, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

6/10/8
Date

Respectfully Submitted,

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